

REMARKS

The Office Action dated February 20, 2007, has been received and carefully noted. The above amendments to the claims, and the following remarks, are submitted as a full and complete response thereto.

Claims 5-9 are currently pending in the application, of which claim 5 is an independent claim. Claim 1 has been cancelled without prejudice or disclaimer.

Claims 5-9 were indicated as allowed. Applicants thank the Examiner for this indication of allowance. Claims 5-9 are the only claims that remain pending in the application. The timely mailing of a notice of allowance is respectfully requested.

Claim 1 had been rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over EP1073179 of Ozawa et al. ("Ozawa"). Claim 1, however, has been cancelled without prejudice or disclaimer. Thus, it is respectfully requested that this rejection be withdrawn as moot.

For the reasons set forth above, and those already of record, it is respectfully submitted that each of claims 5-9 recites subject matter that is neither disclosed nor suggested in the prior art. Claims 5-9 have, therefore, been appropriately allowed, and it is respectfully requested that this application will be timely passed to issuance.

If, for any reason, the Examiner determines that the application is not now in condition for allowance, it is respectfully requested that the Examiner contact, by telephone, the applicants' undersigned attorney at the indicated telephone number to arrange for an interview to expedite the disposition of this application.

In the event this paper is not being timely filed, the applicants respectfully petition for an appropriate extension of time. Any fees for such an extension together with any additional fees may be charged to Counsel's Deposit Account 50-2222.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Peter Flanagan", written over a horizontal line.

Peter Flanagan
Registration No. 58,178

Customer No. 32294
SQUIRE, SANDERS & DEMPSEY LLP
14TH Floor
8000 Towers Crescent Drive
Tysons Corner, Virginia 22182-2700
Telephone: 703-720-7800
Fax: 703-720-7802

PCF:kzw